

BRANSTROM et al. -- Appln. No. 08/711,961

being anticipated by Powell et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,877,159). This rejection is respectfully traversed. The Examiner's attention is directed to the Rule 131 Declaration of Dr. Donata Sizemore, filed herewith. The Declaration provides evidence demonstrating that the presently claimed invention was made prior to May 3, 1995, the priority date of U.S. Pat. No. 5,877,159. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

If any matters remain in the application which might be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY MADISON & SUTRO, L.L.P.

By: *C. A. Hobbs*

Ann S. Hobbs, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 36,830

Tel: (202) 861-3063

1100 New York Avenue  
East Tower, Ninth Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20005

